

1 Honorable Barbara J. Rothstein
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

G.C., by and through his parent K.C.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
Defendant.

Case No.: 2:24-cv-01838-BJR

ORDER GRANTING STIPULATED
MOTION TO FILE UNREDACTED
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD UNDER
SEAL

This matter comes before the Court on the parties' stipulated motion to file the administrative record under seal. The Court starts from the position that there is "a strong presumption in favor of access to court records." *Foltz v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 331 F.3d 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003). To overcome this presumption, there must be a "compelling reason" for sealing that is "sufficient to outweigh the public's interest in disclosure." *Kamakana v. City & County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1179 (9th Cir. 2006). Compelling reasons exist in this case: the administrative record contains a student's private educational and medical information, and Plaintiffs' interest in keeping that information confidential outweighs the public's interest in disclosure. *See id.* Given the volume of the record and the prevalence of sensitive information,

1 redacting this confidential information would be overly burdensome and would render the
2 remaining record difficult to understand – and thus far less valuable – to the public.

3 Accordingly, the Court GRANTS the parties' stipulated motion and DIRECTS the Clerk to
4 maintain the administrative record under seal once it is filed.

Dated this 31st day of January, 2025.

Barbara Pottebaum

Barbara Jacobs Rothstein
U.S. District Court Judge

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